

January 21, 2024: 10 Trivia Contest players have been selected to win a copy of *True Biz* by Sara Novic! Thanks for playing! Here is the answer key for the library's *True Biz* Trivia Contest.

1. Who holds the record for the longest Deaf reoccurring role in television history, and what show was it?

For many people growing up in the 70s-90s the first Deaf person they may have seen on TV is Linda Bove. Linda Bove first appeared on Sesame Street as a librarian, Linda, with her dog Barkley. She introduced many hearing and deaf children to American Sign Language and the Deaf community. She remained in this role from 1971-2002, thus making her the current title holder for the longest Deaf reoccurring role in television history. If you haven't seen the 50th Anniversary Celebration for Sesame Street then you should [watch it](#). She was also the first regular Deaf actress in the soap opera, "Search for Tomorrow."

2. What was the first animated television show to use sign language?

Remember that show with all the little blue characters. That's right, The Smurfs. Well, believe it or not, The Smurfs was the first animated show to have a character use Sign Language. "Smurfing In Sign Language" is the episode that introduced the wood-elf Laconia. There is some debate over whether or not she was deaf, but on the show, it is said that she is "mute and uses sign language to communicate." She taught the Smurfs, and many of those who watched the show, some sign language. This was revolutionary as the technicality of producing signs in animation was not something that had ever been done before.

3. The National Football League and Major League Baseball can each credit Deaf inventors with essential components of their games. What were the two inventions, and who were the inventors?

The "huddle" was invented by a deaf quarterback. The huddle was started in 1892 by Paul Hubbard. Paul Hubbard was a quarterback at Gallaudet University and didn't want people on opposing teams to see his team's signs. Thus the first huddle started, and since then the huddle has been a reoccurring part of many sports teams.

Baseball hand signals were inspired by ASL. William Ellsworth Hoy, also known as "Dummy" Hoy, was the first deaf player in major league baseball. Some believe he may have been the person to originally use the hand signals we see in the sport today.

4. Who is the deaf singer/songwriter who won a Golden Buzzer on America's Got Talent (hint, she spoke at the library and performed at Strings, too!)

[Mandy Harvey](#) won a Golden Buzzer on “America’s Got Talent.” Harvey, a singer/songwriter from Cincinnati Ohio. Harvey graced our TV and computer screens when she appeared on season 12 of America’s Got Talent. She sang an original song, *Try*, which she did while playing the ukulele. She got a Golden Buzzer from Simon Cowell and placed 4th in the competition. For some hearing people, this was the first time they realized some deaf people can sing, and enjoy singing and music.

5. About how many different sign languages are used around the world? Identify 5 of them, and name which one is closest to ASL?

ASL is closest to French Sign Language (LSF)
Chinese Sign Language (CSL)
British, Australian and New Zealand (BANZSL)
Mexican Sign Language (LSM)
Irish Sign Language (ISL)
And [so many more!](#)

6. What is “deaf applause”?

In the Deaf community applause typically takes the form of waving both hands in the air (using a twisting movement).

- What is normal for you is not necessarily normal for people of other cultures.
- The purpose of "applause" is to provide positive feedback indicating approval and encouragement. It makes sense to provide such feedback in a form appreciated by the receiver.
- The Deaf Community values sight and movement more than "sound*."
- To a Deaf performer on stage, waving your hands in the air provides a very visual form of feedback – much more visually satisfying than merely clapping.
- Because clapping is primarily intended to create "sound" clapping is considered to belong to and/or show affiliation with "the Hearing world." As such, the clapping of hands is held in lower regard (in the Deaf Community) than the more visual "waving" of the hands that takes place during "Deaf applause.
- An interesting version of applause that we often see in the Deaf World is "clapping of the hands held overhead." Such an approach works well for mixed (Hearing and Deaf) performing troupes.. Additionally you will see people wave their hands over their heads, clap a bit, and go back to waving -- thus causing a lot of both visual and sound-based feedback.

7. What is the difference between deaf and Deaf?

One needs to understand why it is important when it comes to identification of deaf people. In Deaf culture, “D”, “d”, and “d/Deaf” are extremely significant. “Deaf” with a capital ‘D’, “deaf” with a small ‘d’, and “d/Deaf” with both capital and small ‘d’ all have their unique meanings and how they are applied to people who are deaf. As you probably have heard, deaf people bring up

the terms “hearing world” and “deaf world,” it is because these two terms play a significant role in their identity. People who are deaf are raised differently and their identity is usually defined by how they were raised, their perspective of the term deaf, and their preference. So, what does “Deaf” with a capital ‘D’, “deaf” with a small ‘d’, and “d/Deaf” with both capital and small ‘d’ mean and how do they differ from each other?

“Deaf” with a capital ‘D’

People who are “Deaf” with capital ‘D’ identify themselves as culturally Deaf and are heavily part of the Deaf community. They do not view deaf as a disability and dislike to be labeled as hard-of-hearing. Typically, Deaf people are from a family who are generationally Deaf and usually will attend Deaf school. Whether or not they wear hearing aids, they typically do not speak or hear. They view deaf as part of who they are and their identity, and they take great pride in it. Although ASL tends to be, but not always, their first language, it is their primary language and source of communication.

“deaf” with a small ‘d’

On the other hand, people who are “deaf” with small ‘d’ are usually hard-of-hearing with either hearing aids or cochlear implants. Deaf is seen as a disability and “loss of hearing”. While Deaf people do not like to be labeled as hard-of-hearing, deaf people usually identify themselves as hard-of-hearing because they interact in the hearing world and they have the ability to communicate orally. They are comfortable functioning in the hearing world and feel at ease with the interactions of hearing and talking. Since deaf people grew up oral, they are usually skilled at lip-reading as well. In addition, they are educated in mainstream education where they learn alongside other hearing students, and typical interaction with other students and teachers is through hearing and talking. They may or may not choose to immerse themselves in the Deaf community, but if they do, this usually happens later in life.

“d/Deaf” with both capital and small ‘d’

While “D” and “d” is fairly easy to differentiate, it can become a bit confusing when you are not sure how someone identifies him/herself. In this case, “d/Deaf” with big and small ‘d’ comes in handy and usually identifies someone both ways. Unless it is clearly stated how a person identifies him/herself as Deaf with capital ‘D’ or deaf with small ‘d’, the use of “d/Deaf” to identify a deaf/hard-of-hearing person is a safe way to not offend.

Now that you have learned the differences between “Deaf” with a capital ‘D’, “deaf” with a small ‘d’, and “d/Deaf” with both capital and small ‘d’, you can have a better understanding of these terms and their significance in the Deaf community.

8. Approximately how many people around the world use sign language as their first language?

Sign Language is widely used. Approximately 70 million deaf people use sign language as their first language, according to the [World Federation of the Deaf](#). Sign Language gives the Deaf community a sense of belonging, community, and identity.

9. Where and when was the world's first school for the Deaf founded?

Institut National de Jeunes Sourds de Paris, *National Institute for Deaf Children of Paris* is the current name of the school for the Deaf founded by Charles-Michel de l'Épée, in stages, between 1750 and 1760 in Paris, France. After the death of Père Vanin in 1759, the Abbé de l'Épée was introduced to two deaf girls who were in need of a new instructor. The school began in 1760 and shortly thereafter was opened to the public and became the world's first free school for the deaf. It was originally located in a house at 14 rue des Moulins, butte Saint-Roch, near the Louvre in Paris. On July 29, 1791, the French legislature approved government funding for the school and it was renamed: "Institution Nationale des Sourds-Muets à Paris."

10. When and where was the last segregated state school for the Deaf integrated?

In 1978, Louisiana was the last segregated state school for the Deaf to become integrated in the United States. Sorenson Communications seized the opportunity to celebrate and honor four graduates of the Southern School for the Deaf (SSD) in Baton Rouge. Formerly known as Louisiana State School for the Colored Deaf and Blind (also Southern State School for the Negro Deaf), it was housed on the campus of Southern University, a member of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). The Black Deaf alumni of SSD shared the stories of their time at the school, their use of Black ASL in the classroom, and the Black Deaf experience in a five-minute short film, [Black Deaf History - Southern School for the Deaf](#).

Additional sources:

<https://www.hearinglikeme.com/deaf-fun-facts-you-need-to-know/>

<https://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/topics/deaf-applause.htm>

<https://www.startasl.com/what-does-d-d-and-d-deaf-mean-in-the-deaf-community/>

https://www.tsd.state.tx.us/apps/pages/Deaf_Black_History